

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because although the digital prints (reference number 818) is shown in figure 3, the specification says that they are shown in figure 4 on page 7 line 9. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 1, 4-6, 9, 12, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Tanaka et al. (European Patent Application Publication EP 1 301 020 A2) hereinafter referenced as Tanaka.

Regarding claim 1, Tanaka discloses a printing apparatus, control method therefor, and storage medium. Specifically, Tanaka discloses a print head with a print head cartridge accommodated in the main body. Tanaka inherently discloses the print head is adapted to print images because a print cartridge adapted to print images is required in order to print a color image using a plurality of color inks which reads on claimed, ***“A digital printer comprising: a marking apparatus adapted to print images”***, as disclosed in paragraphs [0013], [0016], [0018] and exhibited in figure 3, wherein the print head reads on claimed, ***“marking apparatus”***.

In addition, Tanaka discloses a USB interface (4004) which exchanges data with the digital camera (3012), which reads on claimed, ***“a first electrical interface for connecting to a digital camera”***, as disclosed in paragraph [0021] and exhibited in figure 4.

In addition, Tanaka discloses a USB interface (4003) which exchanges data with the PC (3010), which reads on claimed, ***“a second electrical interface for connecting to a computer”***, as disclosed in paragraph [0021] and exhibited in figure 4.

In addition, Tanaka discloses an ASIC (3001) connected to a DSP (CPU) (3002), which detects when the camera is connected to the first electrical interface and a printer engine (3004), which is an ink-jet print type printer engine for printing a color image by using a plurality of color inks. In addition, Tanaka discloses a USB interface (4003) which exchanges data with the PC (3010) under the control of the CPU (3002) and eventually prints the data, and a USB interface (4004) which exchanges data with the digital camera (3012) under the control of the CPU (3002) and eventually prints the data, which reads on claimed, ***“a processor for detecting when a digital camera is connected to the first electrical interface, for controlling the marking apparatus to print images provided from the digital camera when the digital camera is connected to the first electrical interface, and for controlling the marking apparatus to print images provided from the computer over the second electrical interface when the digital camera is not connected to the first electrical interface”***, as disclosed in paragraph [0018], [0021], and figures 3, 4, 7, and 9. Specifically, the ASIC (3001), DSP (3002), and printer engine (3004) read on claimed, ***“processor”***.

Regarding claim 4, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1), in addition, Tanaka discloses a USB interface (4003) which exchanges data with the PC (3010) and a USB interface (4004) which exchanges data with the digital camera (3012) and eventually prints the data, which reads on claimed, ***“A printer according to claim 1, wherein said first and second electrical interfaces are***

universal serial bus interfaces”, as disclosed in paragraph [0021] and exhibited in figure 4.

Regarding claim 5, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 4), in addition, Tanaka discloses a general PC printer mode where data from the PC (3010) is input via the USB bus connector (1013), the PC (3010) is input via the USB bus connector (1013), the data is directly sent to the printer engine (3004) via the USB bus hub (3008) and USB bus (3021) when the camera is not connected to the printer (1000) at the USB bus, which reads on claimed, ***“A printer according to claim 4, wherein the printer attaches to the computer as a USB peripheral when the digital camera is not connected to the first electrical interface”***, as disclosed in paragraph [0024], and figures 3 and 9.

Regarding claim 6, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 5), in addition, Tanaka discloses if the PC print mode is not in execution the printer (1000) and the digital camera (3012) is connected to the USB bus by a USB host task then the digital camera (3012) transfers data to the printer to print the images, which reads on claimed, ***“A printer according to claim 5, wherein the printer detaches from the computer and switches to become a USB host to the digital camera when the digital camera is connected to the first electrical interface”***, as disclosed in paragraph [0021] and exhibited in figure 7. Specifically, the PC print mode not in execution reads on claimed, ***“printer detaches from the computer”***.

Regarding claim 9, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1), in addition, Tanaka discloses the printer engine (3004) is an ink-jet print type printer engine for printing a color image by using a plurality of color inks, which reads on claimed, ***“wherein the marking apparatus includes an ink jet head”***, as disclosed in paragraph [0018] and exhibited in figure 3.

Regarding claim 12, Tanaka discloses a printing apparatus, control method therefor, and storage medium. In addition, Tanaka discloses a printer (1000) with a print head with a print head with a print head cartridge accommodated in the main body. Tanaka inherently discloses the print head is adapted to print images because a print cartridge adapted to print images is required in order to print a color image using a plurality of color inks, which reads on claimed, ***“A method of printing images, the method comprising the steps of: providing a printer comprising a marking apparatus adapted to print images”***, as disclosed in paragraphs [0013], [0016], [0018] and exhibited in figure 3, wherein the print head reads on claimed, ***“marking apparatus”***.

In addition, Tanaka discloses a USB interface (4004) which exchanges data with the digital camera (3012), which reads on claimed, ***“a first electrical interface for connecting to a digital camera”***, as disclosed in paragraph [0021] and exhibited in figure 4.

In addition, Tanaka discloses a USB interface (4003) which exchanges data with the PC (3010), which reads on claimed, ***“and a second electrical interface for connecting to a computer”***, as disclosed in paragraph [0021] and exhibited in figure 4.

In addition, Tanaka discloses an ASIC (3001) connected to a DSP (CPU) (3002), which detects when the camera is connected to the first electrical interface, which reads on claimed, ***“detecting when a digital camera is connected to the first electrical interface”***, as disclosed in paragraph [0031] and exhibited in figure 7.

In addition, Tanaka discloses an ASIC (3001) connected to a printer engine (3004), which is an ink-jet print type printer engine for printing a color image by using a plurality of color inks. In addition, Tanaka discloses a USB interface (4004) which exchanges data with the digital camera (3012) under the control of the CPU (3002) and eventually prints the data, which reads on claimed, ***“controlling the marking apparatus to print images provided from the digital camera when the digital camera is connected to the first electrical interface”***, as disclosed in paragraphs [0018], [0021], and exhibited in figure 7.

In addition, Tanaka discloses an ASIC (3001) connected to a printer engine (3004), which is an ink-jet print type printer engine for printing a color image by using a plurality of color inks. In addition, Tanaka discloses the CPU (3002) checks to see if the camera (3012) is connected to the USB bus and if it is not connected a USB interface (4003) exchanges data with the PC (3010) under the control of the CPU (3002) and eventually prints the data, which reads on claimed, ***“controlling the marking apparatus to print images provided from the computer over the second interface”***

when the digital camera is not connected to the first electrical interface", as disclosed in paragraphs [0018], [0021], [0038], and exhibited in figure 9.

Regarding claim 14, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 12), in addition, Tanaka discloses a general PC printer mode where data from the PC (3010) is input via the USB bus connector (1013), the PC (3010) is input via the USB bus connector (1013), the data is directly sent to the printer engine (3004) via the USB bus hub (3008) and USB bus (3021) when the camera is not connected to the printer (1000) at the USB bus, which reads on claimed, ***"A method according to claim 12, wherein the printer attaches to the computer as a USB peripheral when the digital camera is not connected to the first electrical interface"***, as disclosed in paragraph [0024], and figures 3 and 9.

Regarding claim 15, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 14), in addition, Tanaka discloses if the PC print mode is not in execution the printer (1000) and the digital camera (3012) is connected to the USB bus by a USB host task then the digital camera (3012) transfers data to the printer to print the images, which reads on claimed, ***"A method according to claim 14, wherein the printer detaches from the computer and switches to become a USB host to the digital camera when the digital camera is connected to the first electrical interface"***, as disclosed in paragraphs [0021] and exhibited in figure 7. Specifically, the PC print mode not in execution reads on claimed, ***"printer detaches from the computer"***.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 11, 13, and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka in view of “Kodak EasyShare printer dock 6000. User’s Guide” ‘Online! 2003, XP002325719 herein after referenced as EasyShare.

Regarding claim 2, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1), however, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“wherein the printer further includes a user activated control and wherein the processor, responsive to the user activated control, transfers images from the digital camera to the computer”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“wherein the printer further includes a user activated control and wherein the processor, responsive to the user activated control, transfers images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as taught by EasyShare.

In a similar field of endeavor EasyShare discloses a User’s Guide for the EasyShare printer dock 6000. In addition, EasyShare discloses a printer with a printer dock (1), a camera connection (12) and a USB connector (1). In addition, EasyShare

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discloses you can transfer pictures through the printer dock to a computer by pressing the transfer button, which reads on claimed ***“wherein the printer further includes a user activated control and wherein the processor, responsive to the user activated control, transfers images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as disclosed on page 27. Specifically, the transfer button reads on claimed, ***“user activated control”***.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***“wherein the printer further includes a user activated control and wherein the processor, responsive to the user activated control, transfers images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as taught by EasyShare, for the purpose of using an image manipulation software on the computer before or after printing the image from the camera.

Regarding claim 3, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1), however, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“wherein the printer further includes a recess for receiving the digital camera”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“wherein the printer further includes a recess for receiving the digital camera”***, as taught by EasyShare.

In addition, EasyShare discloses a printer dock (1) with a camera connection and universal insert (2), which reads on claimed ***“wherein the printer further includes a***

recess for receiving the digital camera”, as disclosed on page i. Specifically, the universal insert (2) reads on claimed, ***“recess”***.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***“wherein the printer further includes a recess for receiving the digital camera”***, as taught by EasyShare, for the purpose of fixing the camera in place during operation as disclosed on page 13.

Regarding claim 7, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 6), however, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“wherein the printer further includes a user control for initiating transfer of images from the digital camera to the computer”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“wherein the printer further includes a user control for initiating transfer of images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as taught by EasyShare.

In addition, EasyShare discloses a User’s Guide for the EasyShare printer dock 6000. In addition, EasyShare discloses a printer with a printer dock (1), a camera connection (12) and a USB connector (1). In addition, EasyShare discloses you can transfer pictures through the printer dock to a computer by pressing the transfer button, which reads on claimed ***“wherein the printer further includes a user activated control and wherein the processor, responsive to the user activated control, transfers images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as disclosed on page 27. Specifically, the transfer button reads on claimed, ***“user activated control”***.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***“wherein the printer further includes a user activated control and wherein the processor, responsive to the user activated control, transfers images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as taught by EasyShare, for the purpose of using an image manipulation software on the computer before or after printing the image from the camera.

Regarding claim 8, Tanaka and EasyShare, the combination, discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 7), however, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“wherein responsive to the user control, the printer detaches from the digital camera as the USB host and enables the digital camera to become attached as a USB peripheral to the computer”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“wherein responsive to the user control, the printer detaches from the digital camera as the USB host and enables the digital camera to become attached as a USB peripheral to the computer”***, as taught by EasyShare.

In addition, EasyShare discloses that you can transfer pictures from the camera, through the printer dock to the computer after pressing a transfer button, which reads on claimed ***“wherein responsive to the user control, the printer detaches from the digital camera as the USB host and enables the digital camera to become attached as a USB peripheral to the computer”***, as disclosed on page 27.

Specifically, because the computer is connected to the printer dock with a USB interface

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and the printer dock becomes a throughput for the camera to send pictures directly to the computer, the camera becomes ***“attached as a USB peripheral to the computer”***.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***“wherein responsive to the user control, the printer detaches from the digital camera as the USB host and enables the digital camera to become attached as a USB peripheral to the computer”***, as taught by EasyShare, for the purpose of using an image manipulation software on the computer before or after printing the image from the camera.

Regarding claim 11, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1), however, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***, as taught by EasyShare.

In addition, EasyShare discloses the camera can be placed on the camera dock and pushed down to seat the camera connectors (12) and the camera begins charging its rechargeable batteries when it enters auto power-off, which reads on claimed ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***, as disclosed on page 11 and 13.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***, as taught by EasyShare, for the purpose of having a dock which can print directly from the camera, transfer pictures from the camera to the computer, and charge the battery all in one package for convenience as disclosed on page 13.

Regarding claim 13, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 12), however, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as taught by EasyShare.

In a similar field of endeavor EasyShare discloses a User's Guide for the EasyShare printer dock 6000. In addition, EasyShare discloses a printer with a printer dock (1), a camera connection (12) and a USB connector (1). In addition, EasyShare discloses you can transfer pictures through the printer dock to a computer by pressing the transfer button, which reads on claimed ***“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as disclosed on page 27. Specifically, the transfer button reads on claimed, ***“user activated control”***.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as taught by EasyShare, for the purpose of using an image manipulation software on the computer before or after printing the image from the camera.

Regarding claim 16, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 15). In addition, Tanaka discloses an operation panel (1010), which reads on claimed, ***“using a user activated control”***, as disclosed in paragraph [0026] and exhibited in figure 6. However, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as taught by EasyShare.

In a similar field of endeavor EasyShare discloses a User's Guide for the EasyShare printer dock 6000. In addition, EasyShare discloses a printer with a printer dock (1), a camera connection (12) and a USB connector (1). In addition, EasyShare discloses you can transfer pictures through the printer dock to a computer by pressing the transfer button, which reads on claimed ***“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the***

computer", as disclosed on page 27. Specifically, the transfer button reads on claimed, **"user activated control"**.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing a **"user activated control"** as part of the operation panel (1010) which will **"initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer"**, as taught by EasyShare, for the purpose of using an image manipulation software on the computer before or after printing the image from the camera.

Regarding claim 17, Tanaka and EasyShare, the combination, discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 16), in addition, Tanaka discloses a power switch (1005) as part of the operation panel and a USB interface (4004) on the camera (3012). Tanaka inherently discloses the printer detaches from the digital camera as the USB host when the power switch is turned off and enables the digital camera to become the USB host to the digital camera because the printer must turn off when the power switch is set to off, therefore detaching the camera electronically from the printer and thus leaving the camera to operate as itself, which reads on claimed, **"wherein responsive to the user control, the printer detaches from the digital camera as the USB host and enables the digital camera to become the USB host to the digital camera"**, as disclosed in paragraph [0014] and exhibited in figures 1 and 4. Specifically, because the camera contains a USB interface and it is in operation by

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itself it is the USB host of itself and reads on, ***“enables the digital camera to become the USB host to the digital camera”***.

Regarding claim 18, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 12), however, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***, as taught by EasyShare.

In addition, EasyShare discloses the camera can be placed on the camera dock and pushed down to seat the camera connectors (12) and the camera begins charging its rechargeable batteries when it enters auto power-off, which reads on claimed ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***, as disclosed on page 11 and 13.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***, as taught by EasyShare, for the purpose of having a dock which can print directly from the camera, transfer pictures from the camera to the computer, and charge the battery all in one package for convenience as disclosed on page 13.

Claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 11, 13, and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka in view of Gennetten et al. (US Patent 7,119,835 B2) hereinafter referenced as Gennetten.

Regarding claim 2, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1), however, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“wherein the printer further includes a user activated control and wherein the processor, responsive to the user activated control, transfers images from the digital camera to the computer”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“wherein the printer further includes a user activated control and wherein the processor, responsive to the user activated control, transfers images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as taught by Gennetten.

In a similar field of endeavor Gennetten discloses a camera docking solution provides a user interface for printers, CD writers and other devices. In addition, Gennetten discloses that the host device can be a printer with an automated task of printing photos on the camera. Gennetten inherently discloses a marking apparatus adapted to print images because a marking apparatus adapted to print images is required to print photos from a camera, which reads on claimed, ***“a marking apparatus adapted to print images”***, as disclosed in column 4 lines 33-35.

In addition, Gennetten discloses an alternative mating surface (14) of camera mount (12) with pin contacts (17), post (9), trigger (11), which reads on claimed, ***“a first electrical interface for connecting to a digital camera”***, as disclosed in column 7

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lines 48-55 and exhibited in figures 1C, 2A, and 2B. Specifically, the entire alternative mating surface (14) reads on claimed, ***“a first electrical interface for connecting to a digital camera”***.

In addition, Gennetten discloses the printer or other host device may include traditional USB connections to a PC or notebook computer, which reads on claimed, ***“a second electrical interface for connecting to a computer”***, as disclosed column 5 lines 50-55.

In addition, Gennetten discloses the camera can be undocked at any time and the camera processor would record the status of any tasks active at the time of undocking and any uncompleted automatic tasks would be postponed until the next dock event. Gennetten inherently detecting when a digital camera is connected to the first electrical interface because detecting when the digital camera is connected to the dock (printer) is required in order for the processor to record tasks in accordance with when the camera was undocked or docked and then continue them the next time the camera is docked, which reads on claimed, ***“a processor for detecting when a digital camera is connected to the first electrical interface”***, as disclosed in column 4 lines 28-32. Gennetten inherently discloses controlling the marking apparatus to print images provided from the digital camera when the digital camera is connected to the first electrical interface because it is required in order for the printer to have an automated task of printing photos on the camera, which reads on claimed, ***“for controlling the marking apparatus to print images provided from the digital camera when the***

digital camera is connected to the first electrical interface", as disclosed in column 4 lines 33-35.

In addition, Gennetten discloses the dock (printer) also provides a data connection so that the processor transfers images to and from the camera and these images could be directly transferred to the PC's hard drive if PC-connected with a user interface (UI), which reads on claimed, ***"wherein the printer further includes a user activated control and wherein the processor, responsive to the user activated control, transfers images from the digital camera to the computer"***, as disclosed in column 4 lines 45-60. Specifically, the UI reads on claimed, ***"user activated control"***.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***"wherein the printer further includes a user activated control and wherein the processor, responsive to the user activated control, transfers images from the digital camera to the computer"***, as taught by Gennetten, for the purpose of using a photo manipulation software on the images using the computer just before printing them.

Regarding claim 3, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1), however, Tanaka fails to disclose ***"wherein the printer further includes a recess for receiving the digital camera"***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***"wherein the printer further includes a recess for receiving the digital camera"***, as taught by Gennetten.

In addition, Gennetten discloses a recess for receiving the digital camera, which reads on claimed, ***“wherein the printer further includes a recess for receiving the digital camera”***, as exhibited in figures 1C, 2A, and 2B.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***“wherein the printer further includes a recess for receiving the digital camera”***, as taught by Gennetten, for the purpose of mounting the camera, as disclosed in column 7 line 48.

Regarding claim 7, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 6), however, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“a user control for initiating transfer of images from the digital camera to the computer”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“a user control for initiating transfer of images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as taught by Gennetten.

In addition, Gennetten discloses the dock (printer) also provides a data connection so that the processor transfers images to and from the camera and these images could be directly transferred to the PC's hard drive if PC-connected using the user interface (UI), which reads on claimed, ***“a user control for initiating transfer of images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as disclosed in column 4 lines 45-60. Specifically, the UI reads on claimed, ***“user activated control”***.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***“a user control for initiating transfer of images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as

taught by Gennetten, for the purpose of using a photo manipulation software on the images using the computer just before printing them.

Regarding claim 8, Tanaka and Gennetten, the combination, discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 7), however, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“wherein responsive to the user control, the printer detaches from the digital camera as the USB host and enables the digital camera to become attached as a USB peripheral to the computer”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“wherein responsive to the user control, the printer detaches from the digital camera as the USB host and enables the digital camera to become attached as a USB peripheral to the computer”***, as taught by Gennetten.

In addition, Gennetten discloses the hosting device (printer) provides a data connection so that the processor transfers images to and from the camera and these images could be directly transferred to the PC's hard drive if PC-connected using the user interface, which reads on claimed ***“wherein responsive to the user control, the printer detaches from the digital camera as the USB host and enables the digital camera to become attached as a USB peripheral to the computer”***, as disclosed in column 4 lines 45-60. Specifically, Gennetten inherently discloses that the printer detaches from the digital camera as the USB host because it is required in order for images to be transferred directly from the camera to the computer, which reads on claimed, ***“the printer detaches from the camera as the USB host”***, and the fact that the printer is now acting as if it is a wire between the camera and computer because the

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camera is sending images directly to the computer through the printer, qualifies the camera as claimed, ***“attached as a USB peripheral to the computer”***.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***“wherein responsive to the user control, the printer detaches from the digital camera as the USB host and enables the digital camera to become attached as a USB peripheral to the computer”***, as taught by Gennetten, for the purpose of transferring images directly from the digital camera to a computer, as disclosed in column 4 lines 45-60.

Regarding claim 11, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 10), however, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***, as taught by Gennetten.

In addition, Gennetten discloses the dock (printer) provides power for the camera and the camera's battery recharge cycle, which reads on claimed, ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***, as disclosed in column 3 lines 49-50.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital***

camera”, as taught by Gennetten, for the purpose of having a printer and dock that acts like a charger for convenience, as disclosed in column 7 lines 12-13.

Regarding claim 13, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1), however, Tanaka fails to disclose **“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”**. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide **“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”**, as taught by Gennetten.

In a similar field of endeavor Gennetten discloses a camera docking solution provides a user interface for printers, CD writers and other devices. In addition, Gennetten discloses that the host device can be a printer with an automated task of printing photos on the camera. Gennetten inherently discloses a marking apparatus adapted to print images because a marking apparatus adapted to print images is required to print photos from a camera, which reads on claimed, **“providing a printer comprising a marking apparatus adapted to print images”**, as disclosed in column 4 lines 33-35.

In addition, Gennetten discloses an alternative mating surface (14) of camera mount (12) with pin contacts (17), post (9), trigger (11), which reads on claimed, **“a first electrical interface for connecting to a digital camera”**, as disclosed in column 7 lines 48-55 and exhibited in figures 1C, 2A, and 2B. Specifically, the entire alternative

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mating surface (14) reads on claimed, ***“a first electrical interface for connecting to a digital camera”***.

In addition, Gennetten discloses the printer or other host device may include traditional USB connections to a PC or notebook computer, which reads on claimed, ***“a second electrical interface for connecting to a computer”***, as disclosed column 5 lines 50-55.

In addition, Gennetten discloses the camera can be undocked at any time and the camera processor would record the status of any tasks active at the time of undocking and any uncompleted automatic tasks would be postponed until the next dock event. Gennetten inherently detecting when a digital camera is connected to the first electrical interface because detecting when the digital camera is connected to the dock (printer) is required in order for the processor to record tasks in accordance with when the camera was undocked or docked and then continue them the next time the camera is docked, as disclosed in column 4 lines 28-32. Gennetten inherently discloses controlling the marking apparatus to print images provided from the digital camera when the digital camera is connected to the first electrical interface because it is required in order for the printer to have an automated task of printing photos on the camera, which reads on claimed, ***“controlling the marking apparatus to print images provided from the digital camera when the digital camera is connected to the first electrical interface”***, as disclosed in column 4 lines 33-35.

In addition, Gennetten discloses the dock (printer) also provides a data connection so that the processor transfers images to and from the camera and these

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images could be directly transferred to the PC's hard drive if PC-connected with a user interface (UI), which reads on claimed, ***“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as disclosed in column 4 lines 45-60. Specifically, when the camera is connected to the printer, it becomes the UI of the printer and therefore reads on ***“user activated control on the printer”***, as disclosed in column 4 lines 45-61. Specifically, the UI reads on claimed, ***“user activated control”***.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as taught by Gennetten, for the purpose of using a photo manipulation software on the images using the computer just before printing them.

Regarding claim 16, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 15). In addition, Tanaka discloses an operation panel (1010), which reads on claimed, ***“using a user activated control”***, as disclosed in paragraph [0026] and exhibited in figure 6. However, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as taught by Gennetten.

In addition, Gennetten discloses the dock (printer) also provides a data connection so that the processor transfers images to and from the camera and these images could be directly transferred to the PC's hard drive if PC-connected with a user interface (UI), which reads on claimed, ***“using a user activated control on the printer to initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as disclosed in column 4 lines 45-60. Specifically, when the camera is connected to the printer, it becomes the UI of the printer and therefore reads on ***“user activated control on the printer”***, as disclosed in column 4 lines 45-61.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing a ***“user activated control”*** as part of the operation panel (1010) which will ***“initiate a transfer of the images from the digital camera to the computer”***, as taught by Gennetten, for the purpose of using a photo manipulation software on the images using the computer just before printing them.

Regarding claim 17, Tanaka and Gennetten, the combination, discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 16), in addition, Tanaka discloses a power switch (1005) as part of the operation panel and a USB interface (4004) on the camera (3012). Tanaka inherently discloses the printer detaches from the digital camera as the USB host when the power switch is turned off and enables the digital camera to become the USB host to the digital camera because the printer must turn off when the power switch is set to off, therefore detaching the camera electronically from

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the printer and thus leaving the camera to operate as itself, which reads on claimed, ***“wherein responsive to the user control, the printer detaches from the digital camera as the USB host and enables the digital camera to become the USB host to the digital camera”***, as disclosed in paragraph [0014] and exhibited in figures 1 and 4. Specifically, because the camera contains a USB interface and it is in operation by itself it reads on, ***“enables the digital camera to become the USB host to the digital camera”***.

Regarding claim 18, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 10), however, Tanaka fails to disclose ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***, as taught by Gennetten.

In addition, Gennetten discloses the dock (printer) provides power for the camera and the camera's battery recharge cycle, which reads on claimed, ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital camera”***, as disclosed in column 3 lines 49-50.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing ***“wherein the first electrical interface provides power to recharge a battery in the digital***

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camera", as taught by Gennetten, for the purpose of having a printer and dock that acts like a charger, as disclosed in column 7 lines 12-13.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka in view of Shindo et al. (US Patent 6,693,665 B1) hereinafter referenced as Shindo.

Regarding claim 10, Tanaka discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1), however, Tanaka fails to disclose **"the marking apparatus uses color thermal dye sublimation"**. However, the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide **"the marking apparatus uses color thermal dye sublimation"**, as taught by Shindo.

In a similar field of endeavor Shino discloses a system and apparatus for facilitating printing of images from an electronic camera. In addition, Shino discloses the printing section (4) may be a thermal sublimation type printer, which reads on claimed **"the marking apparatus uses color thermal dye sublimation"**, as disclosed in paragraph [0069].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Tanaka by specifically providing **"the marking apparatus uses color thermal dye sublimation"**, as taught by Shindo, for the purpose of transferring dye to plastic or poster paper.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul Berardesca whose telephone number is (571) 270-3579. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon- Fri 7:30am-5:00pm EST (Alternate Fri).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jefferey Harold can be reached on (571)272-7519. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Paul Berardesca
Examiner
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PB
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